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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

ANNUAL REPORT

(11 May 2002 - 6 March 2003)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS, 2003

SUPPLEMENT No. 17

UNITED NATIONS

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NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Annual Report covering the period from 11 May 2002 to 6 March 2003

INTRODUCTION

1. The present Annual Report was adopted unanimously by the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) at the sixth meeting of its fifty-eighth session on 6 March 2003.

CHAPTER I

ISSUES CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

2. None.

CHAPTER II

WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE ITS FIFTY-SEVENTH SESSION

A. Activities of subsidiary bodies

3. A list of meetings held since the fifty-seventh session is contained in Annex I, showing in each case the dates, the officers and the symbols of the report. These reports record the agreements reached and decisions taken.

B. Other activities

4. The secretariat serviced the regular session of the Commission, Ad Hoc Informal Meetings of the Commission, meetings of its subsidiary bodies, and other meetings held under its auspices. Periodic reviews, including the Economic Survey of Europe, specialized statistical bulletins and other publications were issued (see Annex II). The secretariat maintained close and regular liaison with United Nations Headquarters and cooperated with the Departments concerned, as well as with the secretariats of the other regional commissions on projects of common interest.

C. Relations with other United Nations Programmes

5. The cooperation of the Commission and its secretariat in 2002/2003 with various United Nations bodies and other international organizations, as well as with their secretariats, has continued as called for in the Plan of Action.

CHAPTER III

FIFTY-EIGHTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

A. Attendance and organization of work

6. The fifty-eighth session of the Commission was held from 4 to 6 March 2003. The Commission heard statements by the Chairman and the Executive Secretary.

7. The fifty-eighth session was attended by representatives from Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America.

8. The session was attended by representatives of the European Community.

9. Representatives of the Holy See participated under article 8 of the Commission's terms of reference.

10. Representatives of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), United Nations Regional Commissions New York Office (RCNYO), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the following specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations were in attendance: World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), World Bank, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), European Free Trade Organization (EFTA), Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

11. The following non-governmental organizations were represented: ECO-Accord/European Eco Forum, International Federation of University Women (IFUW), International Council of Women (ICW), International Council of Jewish Women (ICJW), Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia, Society for Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI), Zonta International

12. A complete list of participants can be found in document E/ECE(58)/INF.1/Rev.1.

B. Agenda

13. The Commission adopted its agenda (E/ECE/1397) as orally revised, which read as follows:

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Economic developments in the UNECE region
3. Sustainable development in the UNECE region:
   - National sustainable development strategies: Main problems, lessons and implications for the work of the UNECE
   - Regional perspectives on sustainable development: the UNECE's follow-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD)
4. The UNECE reform
5. Major policy directions of UNECE's work
6. UNECE's achievements and constraints during 2002 and perspectives for 2003
7. Preparation for and follow-up to World and Regional Conferences:
   - Information on the holding of the Pan-European Regional Ministerial Conference (Bucharest, November 2002) in preparation for the World Summit on Information Society and Preparations for the World Summit on Information Society in December 2003
   - Follow-up to the Ministerial Conference on Ageing in Berlin, September 2002
8. Technical cooperation
9. Cooperation and coordination with other organizations
10. Report of the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work (GEPW)
11. Election of officers
12. Other business
13. Adoption of the report

C. Election of Officers

14. The Chairman of the fifty-eighth session of the Commission was Mr. Clyde Kull (Estonia) and the Vice-Chairpersons Mr. Michel Adam (Belgium), Mr. Yaakov Levy (Israel) and Mr. Mykhailo Skuratovskyi (Ukraine).

15. The Rapporteurs of the session were Mr. Peter Storer (Austria) and Mr. Bob Fairweather (United Kingdom).

16. At its sixth meeting the Commission re-elected Mr. Clyde Kull (Estonia) Chairman of the fifty-ninth session. Mr. Vladimir Thanati (Albania), Mr. Sergei Aleinik (Belarus) and Mr. Michel Adam (Belgium) were elected Vice-Chairpersons of the fifty-ninth session.

D. Account of proceedings

Economic developments in the UNECE region
(Agenda item 2)

17. For the consideration of this item the Commission had before it the Economic Survey of Europe 2003 No. 1.

18. The findings of the Economic Survey were introduced by Mr. Dieter Hesse, Director of the Economic Analysis Division of UNECE.

19. In his presentation, Mr. Hesse noted that the global economic development in 2002 had been quite disappointing but economic recovery was expected to start from the second half of 2003. He reported that while growth had been modest in Western Europe and North America, Eastern Europe and the CIS countries had demonstrated moderate to high growth based on strong domestic demand and good export performance. Mr. Hesse then touched upon the prospects for the future.

20. Delegations expressed their appreciation of the academic and practical usefulness of the Survey and made brief comments on the economic situation in their countries and sub-regions, as well as on the section dealing with the impact of EU enlargement on trade and economic relations with non-acceding countries.

21. Some concerns were raised on the relevance and reliability of some of the assessments of Chapter 5 (Progress in Systemic Reforms in the CIS) and on the data sources and methodologies used for measuring progress in establishing democratic societies, improving political systems, fighting corruption, enforcing rule of law, etc. Delegates suggested that the quality of the report could be enhanced by using more recent, accurate and recognized data for analysis and comparisons, establishing a unified system of indicators of assessment of countries' development, and by improving communication with the relevant institutions in countries and competent international organizations to ensure data quality and reliability, rather than using NGO or private foundations sources. The secretariat responded by saying that the latest available data is used for the Survey. Official data is preferred if available and when this is not the case, data from other sources is carefully scrutinized. Member countries are welcome to provide more recent data if available.

22. The question of whether it would be possible to analyse potential rate of growth was also raised.

23. The secretariat added that it would be interesting to estimate growth potential, but the necessary data time series are not currently available.

Sustainable development in the UNECE region
(Agenda item 3)

- **National sustainable development strategies: Main problems, lessons and implications for the work of the UNECE**

24. The discussion on this item was organized around two Round Tables as follows:

(i) Round Table I: "Progress in national strategies for sustainable development". Mr. Ioan Jelev, State Secretary for Environmental Protection, Ministry of Water and Environmental Protection, Romania, acted as moderator. The following persons participated as panellists: Mr. Christian Vanden Bilcke, Director, Directorate for Sustainable Development and Science Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Belgium; Mr. Amir Hadziomeragic, Economic Development Unit, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations, Bosnia and Herzegovina; Mr. Tomas Novotny, Deputy Minister for the Environment, Czech Republic; Ms. Kairi Saar, External Economic Policy Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Estonia; Mrs. Cornelia Quennet-Thielen, Deputy Director General, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety; Germany; Mrs. Judit Habuda, Assistant State Secretary from the Office of the Prime Minister, Hungary; Mr. Veaceslav Afanasiev, Deputy-Minister of Economy, Republic of Moldova; Mr. Józef Berenyi, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Slovakia; and Mr. Pierre Alain Rumley, Directeur de l'Office Fédéral du Développement Territorial, Switzerland.

(ii) Round Table II: "Strategy Implementation / The role of International Cooperation". Mr. Andrey Granovsky, Director, Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Russian Federation, moderated the session. The following persons participated as panellists: Mr. Manfred Schneider, Director for International Environment Affairs, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Austria; H.E. Mr. Mahmud Mamed-Kuliyev, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Azerbaijan; Mr. Rupert Willis, Directorate General for Environment, European Commission; Mr. Kari Karanko, Director for International Environmental Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland; Mr. Marc Giacomini, Chef du Service des Affaires Internationales du Ministère de l'Ecologie et du Développement Durable, France; Ms. Vicky Karagiorgou, Special Advisor of the Ministry of Environment, Urban Planning and Public Works, Greece; Mr. Jacek Jaskiewicz, Counsellor to the Minister, Ministry of Environment, Poland; Mr. Igor Shumylo, First Deputy State Secretary, Ministry of Economy and European Integration, Ukraine.

25. During the first Round Table, the panellists presented their experience in the development of the national plans/strategies for sustainable development in their countries and the progress made thereof. The presentations were made around the four main questions of interest, namely, what are the priorities that received particular attention in the national sustainable development strategy; what are the main stages in the process of developing the strategy; including the role of major stakeholders; what are the major policies and tools envisaged; and how are the necessary resources estimated and ensured.

26. While many UNECE member countries have already adopted a national strategy/ plan for sustainable development, others are still in the process of finalizing their plans. Many developed

their plans on sustainable development in parallel with, or in the broad framework of, the national development plan. The challenge is to ensure the coordination and coherence between the two.

27. Based on these presentations, the following points emerged as of key importance to the development of national sustainable development strategies:

(i) It is advisable not to try to comprehensively tackle all issues raised by Agenda 21 but to limit action to carefully selected areas of concern;

(ii) The selection of these concerns must come through a process of consultation with all stakeholders, including local governments, local communities, the broader civil society, academics, NGOs. The role of partnerships was emphasized;

(iii) Efforts must be made to ensure that all three pillars of sustainable development are addressed and on an equal footing;

(iv) Among the priorities or areas commonly addressed by the countries are the following: decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation; changing production and consumption patterns; science and technology development; fighting poverty and ensuring social cohesion; improving quality of life and well being of the people; health; sound management of natural resources; sustainable energy policy; environmental protection; research, technology and innovations; land use, urban planning and development; environment-friendly mobility;

(v) The process and the plan need to be supported by a legislative framework and a commitment from the highest level of the government;

(vi) In the experience of several countries, the establishment of an appropriate institutional framework is necessary, such as the creation of interministerial committees and national councils for the purpose of developing and subsequent refining of the national strategy has proved to be essential; such mechanisms would allow for priority setting that results from the involvement of government at all levels, as well as all stakeholders (local authorities, NGOs, scientific circles, private sector), thus leading to a feeling of ownership;

(vii) The establishment of sustainable development focal points in each government department and related organization is also felt to be a useful means of ensuring multidisciplinary involvement, and contact point and follow-up;

(viii) The national sustainable development plan should be a living document, with reviews and monitoring mechanisms put in place; its development and implementation should be a continual learning process;

(ix) Progress in implementation should be measured through the use of concrete indicators, with clearly identified targets and a set timetable.

28. Many countries make use of the Internet as a tool to facilitate public consultations, making information available to the public and receiving feedback from all parts of civil society. In this connection, it was also suggested that UNECE place on its website the reports on progress in development and implementation of national sustainable development plans/ strategies of its member countries.

29. It was also suggested that UNECE could provide a framework of evaluation; support capacity building for monitoring progress and impact assessment; exchange experiences on how to prioritize and ensure linkages with global programmes and national plans.

30. The second panel focussed on Strategy Implementation and the role of international cooperation.

31. The contribution of the panellists focussed on five questions: (a) Is there an implementation/action plan for the strategy; (b) how are specific implementation measures developed, agreed upon, implemented and evaluated; (c) have national indicators for sustainable development been developed and used; (d) are there any specific challenges or difficulties in the development or implementation of the strategy for which the country would like to seek assistance and learn from the experience of other countries; (e) are there any achievements, good examples or lessons learned that might be useful to other countries, and what is the added value of international/regional cooperation from your point of view.

32. On the basis of the panel discussion, the following could be highlighted:

(i) Several panellists indicated that they revise their National Sustainable Development Strategies on a regular basis according to the progress made;

(ii) Given the need to match the long-term objectives with short-term political interests, high-level political support is necessary for successful implementation;

(iii) Some panellists reported on the implementation mechanisms established at the national level combining all relevant Ministerial Departments and different stakeholders. It was mentioned that broad partnerships and dialogue are necessary for successful implementation and help to create a sense of ownership in different stakeholder groups;

(iv) The need to review progress in strategy implementation on the basis of specific targets, indicators and timetables was highlighted. Some panellists reported the need for developing sustainable development indicators and databases and international institutions, including the United Nations, could play a role here. There is a need for peer reviews based on reliable statistical indicators;

(v) Some panellists suggested that there is a need to treat all dimensions of sustainable development in an integrated manner, including cultural, employment, ageing and other dimensions;

(vi) The importance of subregional and regional cooperation was highlighted, such as the Euro-Mediterranean and Baltic Sea partnership initiatives;

(vii) It was suggested that United Nations institutions should support follow-up to the Johannesburg Summit at country level;

(viii) The international governance on sustainable development was underlined as an important issue, taking into account cultural diversity, global public goals, the social dimension of globalization, inclusion of the environmental dimension in the multilateral trade

negotiations. A suggestion for a possible future world environmental organization was recalled.

33. The panellists suggested the following possible roles for UNECE to be considered by the Commission:

(i) UNECE to stimulate, support, enhance or build on subregional processes;

(ii) Reflection and exchange of best practices on mechanisms and tools for shaping long term policy decisions and ensuring a balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development into all sectors of activities;

(iii) Place for developing a set of interrelated indicators on sustainable development, for providing a solid statistical basis for supporting national follow-up.

34. The Moderator suggested two additional issues that need consideration, namely financing for sustainable development at the national level, and capacity building and education.

- **Regional perspectives on sustainable development: the UNECE's follow-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD)**

35. The Commission considered this agenda item on the basis of a formal document "Proposed Follow-up for the UNECE Region of the World Summit on Sustainable Development" (E/ECE/1398).

36. The document was introduced by the Executive Secretary. Remarks were made by Ms. Anne Kerr, the Chief of the National Information Strategies and Institutions Branch of the secretariat for the Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD) in New York, who noted that the real success of the World Summit on Sustainable Development would be measured by whether the challenge of turning the goals and commitments into reality will be met.

37. Ms. Kerr reported that the Secretary-General had recently released a report on "Follow-up to Johannesburg and the Future Role of the CSD: the Implementation Track", which emphasized the dynamic and catalytic roles that the regions can play in enhancing the linkages between global deliberations and national implementation and in involving other regional institutions in sustainable development work. The subject of regional implementation forums will be on the agenda of the high-level Ministerial segment of CSD-11 in April 2003.

38. A number of points were made during the discussion, including:

- The WSSD gave a clear mandate to the United Nations regional commissions in its "Plan of Implementation";

- UNECE had already done important work in the area of sustainable development even before WSSD. The follow-up should build upon UNECE's well-developed activities and the expertise already available in the field of sustainable development should be fully utilized.

- Delegations expressed appreciation of the efforts of the UNECE secretariat aimed at mainstreaming sustainable development within the different subprogrammes. It was mentioned that the areas in which UNECE is active all have importance in relation to sustainable development. All activities should be scrutinized with a view to ensuring that they are supportive of sustainable development.

- The need for the UNECE to elaborate an action-oriented strategy on Education for Sustainable Development, together with the Council of Europe and UNESCO;

- Any new activity should have a clear added value to what other organizations are doing in this field and any new work area should be driven by the demand of member States. There is a need to avoid duplication with other United Nations bodies, such as WHO, UNEP and UNESCO, and to cooperate with them.

- UNECE activities should be coherent with ongoing programmes and processes, such as the sustainable development activities carried out in the framework of CSD, UNEP and the "Environment for Europe" process. It is advisable for UNECE to pursue coordinated approaches with other regional organizations and sub-regional processes.

- UNECE should play an active role in the implementation of the sustainable development strategies, in reviewing the national sustainable development programmes, reviewing Johannesburg partnerships and creating new partnerships.

39. In response to a question regarding the working format of the Senior Management Group, the secretariat stated that while the Group was a structure created within the secretariat to facilitate inter-divisional cooperation, consultations with member States could be organized on substantive issues.

40. Following the discussion, during which divergent views were expressed, the Commission agreed in general with a role for UNECE in follow-up to WSSD on the understanding that the specific format and modalities will be decided following the debate and possible decisions by the CSD and at an Ad Hoc Informal Meeting of the Commission.

The UNECE reform
(Agenda item 4)

41. The Commission considered this agenda item on the basis of the document "The UNECE Reform" (E/ECE/1399) which focused on the reform of the secretariat, the intergovernmental structure, and the reform of technical cooperation.

42. The Executive Secretary, in introducing the document, recalled that the discussion on the UNECE reform had started at the fifty-seventh Annual Session of the Commission in May 2002 on the basis of Conference Room Paper 3 on "Strengthening the Organization – UNECE's Secretariat's Self-Assessment".

43. Points made by delegations included the following:

- The need to enhance the role of the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work (GEPW) as a forum and the platform for member States for consultations and formulation of recommendations for action by the Commission;
- The role of the Steering Group needed to be reconsidered;
- The necessity to coordinate with member States and their permanent missions on invitations to participate in UNECE meetings;
- In addition, the need to improve procedures used by UNECE and by the United Nations Office at Geneva for registration and admission to the Palais des Nations, so as to improve security.
- The 1997 Plan of Action is still valid and should guide the work of UNECE;
- UNECE Reform should be a continuous process and be part of the broader United Nations Reform;
- Continued and regular review of the intergovernmental structure should be carried out with the full participation of Principal Subsidiary Bodies and their subsidiary bodies;
- Sunset clauses should be introduced when appropriate;
- The intergovernmental structure should reflect UNECE's mandate, meet the main priorities of the Commission and be flexible enough to respond to new challenges;
- The set of the proposals in the Reform document need explicit timetables in order to enhance transparency and accountability;
- The views of experts familiar with the overall United Nations reform process (e.g. from UNHQ) should be brought to bear on the UNECE reform exercise;
- The frequency of meetings and number of reports produced should be reviewed for efficiency and relevance;
- Programme and project evaluation and monitoring by external experts and member States_should provide useful information and improve planning and targeting of activities;
- There is a need for streamlining and avoiding duplication in all activities;
- Intersectoral activities should be further strengthened;
- Technical cooperation should be demand driven and result oriented and focus on main priority areas and on the countries most in need;
- Greater transparency and accountability to member States is needed in regard to technical cooperation, including the activities of the Regional Advisors;

- Need to improve the coherence of the internal structures within UNECE;
- Fund-raising for technical cooperation needs to be enhanced and appropriate strategy developed;
- Priority setting for, and planning of, technical cooperation should be improved and member States need to be closely involved in decision-making on this issue;
- Improved qualitative assessment of the results of technical cooperation is crucial.

44. In his concluding remarks, the Chairman of the Commission stated that many delegations had welcomed the direction of the Executive Secretary's paper and had had positive reactions to some of the actions included therein. Others, however, required further discussion, in particular Action 3 regarding intergovernmental restructuring and those relating to the intergovernmental structure and to technical cooperation. It was therefore reaffirmed that the GEPW would continue deliberations on the reform of the UNECE, including the points made by delegations set out in paragraph 43 above, as part of its work programme and provide recommendations to be considered by the Commission.

Major policy directions of UNECE's work
(Agenda item 5)

45. The Commission considered this item on the basis of the paper by the Executive Secretary on "Major Policy directions of UNECE's work" (E/ECE/1400).

46. The following points emerged from the discussion:

- The Commission expressed its general agreement on the content of the paper.
- The Commission supported the continuation of the current UNECE approach to mainstream the three dimensions of sustainable development into all UNECE areas of work as a way to further integrate sustainable development concerns into its activities, in response to the WSSD Plan of Implementation.
- While UNECE needs to be responsive to new developments by making adjustments to its work programme as necessary and appropriate, its mandate did not need to be extended. Rather, UNECE should continue to focus its work in areas where it has recognized expertise and proven advantages. Adjustments should not adversely affect its well-established work, particularly in standard setting. Activities should be demand-driven.
- New activities should be introduced through adjustment of the work programme in a way that does not require additional budgetary resources.
- With regard to post-enlargement Europe, UNECE should continue to play its role in supporting regional cooperation between the EU and the non-acceding countries and among non-acceding countries. This work should contribute to creating favourable

conditions for increased economic cooperation in Europe. Technical cooperation should focus on the adjustment of transition economies of non-acceding countries. At the same time, overlap with various EU assistance programmes should be avoided. In regard to the implementation of norms, it was felt useful to strengthen UNECE's cooperation with the European Commission.

- The importance of information and communication technologies (ICT) and knowledge-based economy was recognized for transition economies in particular although the scope of future work in these areas still needed to be further defined while maintaining the balance with the principal body, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

- Work in the area of corporate governance was questioned. Care would be needed in defining the work in order to bring maximum benefits to member countries, while avoiding duplication with other organizations working in this field.

- The focus on implementation was endorsed.

- The role of UNECE in assisting countries in monitoring and assessment of progress in implementing objectives of those global conferences relevant to the UNECE mandate was underlined.

UNECE's achievements and constraints during 2002 and perspectives for 2003

(Agenda item 6)

47. The discussion under this item took place on the basis of the report by the Executive Secretary on "UNECE's achievements and constraints during 2002 and perspectives for 2003" (E/ECE/1401).

48. The chairpersons / vice-chairpersons of UNECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies (PSBs) made presentations that highlighted the results of their work and the outlook and challenges ahead.

49. The Commission expressed its satisfaction of the work of the PSBs. The following points were also underlined:

- All PSBs already regularly review their strategic directions and review their priorities and activities. However, some future streamlining and restructuring of the subsidiary bodies and related groups need also to be considered, to ensure their continued relevance and effectiveness

- Decision-making by the Commission would be assisted by evaluations of the effectiveness and impact of UNECE's work

- Gender issues need to be further incorporated into the work of all subprogrammes

- The role of the PSB Bureaux in overall programme coordination with the other organizations involved in the same fields of activities was underlined, in order to avoid duplication and strengthen complementarity of work.

50. Clarifications to various questions were provided. The Chairman concluded by reiterating the usefulness of having included this item in the agenda and stressing the importance of the "real" work done by the PSBs.

Preparation for and follow-up to World and Regional Conferences

- **Information on the holding of the Pan-European Regional Ministerial Conference (Bucharest, November 2002) in preparation for the World Summit on Information Society and Preparations for the World Summit on Information Society in December 2003**
- **Follow-up to the Ministerial Conference on Ageing in Berlin, September 2002**

(Agenda item 7)

51. The Commission considered this agenda item on the basis of the document "Preparation for and Follow-up to World and Regional Conferences" (E/ECE/1402), which provided information on the Pan-European Regional Ministerial Conference held in preparation for the World Summit on Information Society and proposals for UNECE follow-up to the Ministerial Conference on Ageing.

52. The delegations of Romania and Germany made introductory remarks concerning the Pan-European Regional Ministerial Conference and the Ministerial Conference on Ageing respectively.

53. A number of points were made during the discussion, including:

- Satisfaction was expressed with both the preparatory process and the outcome of the Pan-European Regional Ministerial Conference and its impact on the preparations for the WSIS;
- Participation in the follow-up to Berlin should be within UNECE's existing mandate and resources and draw on UNECE's recognized expertise, however without establishing a new separate area of programme activities;
- Follow-up should be properly structured and focus on mainstreaming of ageing policy into existing structures and programme of work;
- Coordination with other relevant organizations should be ensured;
- In regard to follow-up to Berlin, UNECE should play an active role in networking, facilitating information exchange, through seminars and round tables and collecting data and preparing analysis, while avoiding duplication with the activities of other organizations;
- The proposed cooperation with the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research in Vienna was welcomed.

54. In summing up the discussion, the Chair recognized overall appreciation of delegations of the input of UNECE into the work of the two conferences. He noted that in regard to the follow-

up to the Ministerial Conference on Ageing, it is work in progress that needs further discussion with member States, staying within the mandate and expertise of UNECE.

Technical cooperation
(Agenda item 8)

55. For the consideration of this item, the Commission had before it document E/ECE/1403 on "UNECE technical cooperation activities in 2002: An overview".

56. The Commission gave a positive assessment of the work done by UNECE in technical cooperation and providing assistance to its less advanced member countries. It welcomed the formation of a new Technical Cooperation Unit and supported the idea of setting up a joint committee in the secretariat to improve the overall coordination of technical cooperation activities.

57. The following points were underlined:

- The priority setting mechanism for technical cooperation activities needed to be strengthened to ensure that technical assistance projects are carried out in response to real needs of member countries and that they do not overlap with the work of other organizations;
- Technical cooperation activities should be demand-driven and action oriented, with emphasis given to less advanced, low-income countries with economies in transition;
- Technical cooperation activities in relation to South Caucasus as well as to Central Asia, in the framework of the Special Programme for Economies of Central Asia (SPECA), should be strengthened;
- The secretariat needs to find new ways for fund raising; possibly through better channelling of information to potential donors, including by sending information on project proposals to missions in Geneva and inviting financial support from donor governments as well as from the private sector;
- Regular provision of information on ongoing technical assistance projects would contribute to improving transparency. In this respect, member States were informed of a new UNECE website on technical cooperation where information on trust funds and project proposals is made available.
- Financial assistance should be made available to low-income countries with economies in transition to enable them to participate in UNECE activities such as workshops and seminars;
- Evaluation of technical coooperation activities, though recognized as being difficult and complex and requiring resources, is important and necessary;
- Any increase in technical cooperation activities should not draw resources away from the core activities of UNECE, in particular the standard setting work.

Cooperation and coordination with other organizations
(Agenda item 9)

58. The Commission considered this agenda item on the basis of the document "Cooperation and Coordination with Other Organizations" (E/ECE/1404). It expressed its satisfaction with the way UNECE cooperates with other organizations active in the same area of work and encouraged the secretariat to further strengthen this cooperation.

59. During the discussion, the following points were made:

- The substantive contribution of UNECE to OSCE work on the economic and environmental dimensions of security in Europe proved to be very valuable, particularly as it relates to the OSCE annual economic forum, and future contribution to the elaboration of the New Strategy Document as mandated by the OSCE Ministerial Conference in Porto (December 2002);
- The role of UNECE in the work with OSCE had not been recognized enough in the past;
- Reference to the role of UNECE in the work with OSCE should be made in the UNECE programme of work in the future;
- Possibility of budget allocation was suggested for consideration;
- The potential of UNECE cooperation with sub-regional organizations, in particular in the "eastern part" of the UNECE region, should be further explored.

Report of the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work (GEPW)
(Agenda item 10)

60. The Commission had before it the report of the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work (E/ECE/1405) containing a summary of the work carried out by the Group during 2002. The Chairperson of the Group further informed the Commission of the formal and informal meetings of the Group that took place at the beginning of 2003.

61. Appreciation was expressed by many delegations for the extensive work of the Group on many issues and member States reiterated the need to enhance the role of the GEPW.

62. The Chairman welcomed the interest of member States and reaffirmed that the Commission had on many occasions mandated the Group to address various issues and make recommendations to the Commission. The strengthening of the Group's mandate should be taken up by member States in the course of the year, within the framework of the ongoing discussion on the UNECE reform.

63. The Commission thanked Ms Irina Ananich (Belarus) for her contribution as Chairperson of the GEPW and expressed its best wishes for her future diplomatic career.

Other business
(Agenda item 12)

64. Under this item delegations raised the problem of the timely issuance of official documentation in the three working languages of the Commission, including on the official UNECE website, as recommended by the Ad Hoc Informal Meeting on 2 December 2002.

Adoption of the Annual Report of the Commission
(Agenda item 13)

65. At its sixth meeting, on 6 March 2003, the Commission adopted its report covering the period from 11 May 2002 to 6 March 2003.

ANNEX I

LIST OF MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION'S SUBSIDIARY BODIES IN 2002/2003

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report
THE COMMISSION			
Ad Hoc Informal Meeting of the Commission		20 June 2002	–
Chairperson:	Mr. C. Kull (Estonia)	14 October 2002	
		2 December 2002	E/ECE/1396
High-level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health		2nd session 5 July 2002	ECE/AC.21/2002/6 EUR/02/5040828/6
Co-Chairmen:	Mr. A. Nasonov (Russian Federation) Mrs. J. Maucec Zakotnik (Slovenia) Mr. H. Schreiber (Austria) Mr. H. von Meijenfeldt (Netherlands)		
Ministerial Conference on Ageing		11-13 September 2002 Berlin (Germany)	ECE/AC.23/2002/9
Chairperson:	Mrs. C. Bergmann (Germany)		
Vice-Chairpersons:	Mrs. G. Karelova (Russian Federation) Mr. V. Dimovski (Slovenia) Mr. E. Sontag (United States)		
Working Group for the Ministerial Conference on Ageing		3rd meeting 3-5 June 2002	–
Chairman:	Mr. C. Linzbach (Germany)	4th meeting 1-5 July 2002	–
Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution			
Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution		20th session 10-13 December 2002	ECE/EB.AIR/77
Chairman:	Mr. H. Dovland (Norway)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. D. Hrcek (Slovenia) Mr. W. Harnett (United States) Mr. L. Lindau (Sweden) Mr. M. Williams (United Kingdom) Mr. P. Széll (United Kingdom) Mr. R. Ballaman (Switzerland) Mr. H.-D. Gregor (Germany)		

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report
Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP)		26th session 2-4 September 2002	EB.AIR/GE.1/2002/2
Chairman:	Mr. M. Williams (United Kingdom)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. P. Grennfelt (Sweden)		
	Mr. R. Van Aalst (Netherlands)		
	Ms. S. Vidic (Croatia)		
	Ms. L. Edwards (European Community)		
	Mr. S. Doytchnov (Italy)		
	Mr. J. Santroch (Czech Republic)		
Working Group on Effects		21st session 28-30 August 2002	EB.AIR/WG.1/2002/2
Chairman:	Mr. H.-D. Gregor (Germany)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. B. Achermann (Switzerland)		
	Mr. V.N. Bashkin (Russian Federation)		
	Mr. G. Fenech (Canada)		
	Mr. R. Guardans (Spain)		
	Mr. T. Johannessen (Norway)		
Working Group on Strategies and Review		34th session 18-20 September 2002	EB.AIR/WG.5/74
Chairman:	Mr. R. Ballaman (Switzerland)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. V. Sokolovsky (Russian Federation)		
	Mr. D. Jost (Germany)		
	Mr. J. Zurek (Poland)		
	Ms. K. Scavo (United States)		
Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes			
Intergovernmental Working Group on Civil Liability		4th meeting 2-4 September 2002	MP.WAT/AC.3/2002/11 CP.TEIA/AC.1/2002/11
Chairman:	Ms. P. Daskalopoulou-Livada (Greece)		
		5th meeting	MP.WAT/AC.3/2002/14
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. J. Bally (Switzerland)	11-13 Nov 2002	CP.TEIA/AC.1/2002/14
	Mr. A. Tanzi (Italy)		
	Mr. J. Wettig (European Community)	6th meeting 15-17 January 2003	MP.WAT/AC.3/2003/3 CP.TEIA/AC.1/2003/3
		7th meeting 26-27 February 2003	MP.WAT/AC.3/2003/7 CP.TEIA/AC.1/2003/7
Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment		3rd meeting 3-5 October 2002 Helsinki (Finland)	MP.WAT/WG.2/ 2002/2
Chairman:	Mrs L. Kauppi (Finland)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mrs Z. Buzas (Hungary)		

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report
Working Group on Water and Health		2nd meeting 28-29 October 2002	MP.WAT/WG.4/2002/2 EUR/02/5044180/2
Chairman:	Mr. M. Kadar (Hungary)	Budapest (Hungary)	
Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context			
Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment		5th meeting 27-29 January 2003	MP.EIA/WG.1/2003/2
Chairman:	Mr. S. Ruchti (Switzerland)		
Vice-Chairman:	Ms. V. Grigorova (Bulgaria)		
Ad Hoc Working Group on the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment		6th session 23-27 September 2002 Ohrid (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)	MP.EIA/AC.1/2002/7
Chairman:	Mr. T. Lind (Norway)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. J. de Mulder (Belgium) Mr. J. Jendroska (Poland) Mr. J. Volf (Czech Republic)	7th session 18-22 November 2002	MP.EIA/AC.1/2002/12
		8th session 30 January 2003	MP.EIA/AC.1/2003/2
Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents			
Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents		1st session 6-8 November 2002 Chisinau (Republic of Moldova)	ECE/CP.TEIA/7
Chairman:	Mr. E. Berger (Switzerland)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. J. Wettig (European Commission)		
Meeting of Parties to the Convention on access to information, public participation in decision making and access to justice in environmental matters			
Meeting of Parties to the Convention on access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters		1st session 21-23 October 2002 Lucca (Italy)	ECE/MP.PP/2
Chairman:	Mr. A. Matteoli (Italy)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. S. Kurykin (Ukraine)		
Working Group on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers		1st meeting 25-29 November 2002	MP.PP/AC.1/2002/2
Chairman:	Mr. K. Blaha (Czech Republic)	2nd meeting 27-30 January 2003	MP.PP/AC.1/2003/2
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. G. van Grootveld (Netherlands)		

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report
ENVIRONMENT			
Committee on Environmental Policy		9th session 4-6 November 2002	ECE/CEP/86 and Add.1
Chairman:	Mr. H. Von Meijenfeldt (Netherlands)	Special Session 18-19 February 2003	ECE/CEP/91
Vice-Chairmen:	Ms. N. Darbynian (Armenia) Ms. H. Cizková (Czech Republic) Mr. S. Tveretinov (Russian Federation) Mr. J. Kahn (Sweden) Ms. S. Vermont (Switzerland) Mr. M. Dimovski (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) Ms. L. Poulton (United States)		
Ad Hoc Expert Group on Environmental Performance Reviews		9th meeting 7-11 October 2002	--
Co-Chairmen:	Ms. V. Grigorova (Bulgaria) Mr. H. Liiv (Estonia)	10th meeting 17 February 2003	--
Ad Hoc Working Group on Environmental Monitoring		3rd session 29-30 August 2002	CEP/AC.10/2002/15
Chairman:	Mr. Yu. Tsaturov (Russian Federation)	4th session 28-29 November 2002	--
Ad Hoc Preparatory Working Group of Senior Officials "Environment for Europe"		3rd session 3-4 July 2002	CEP/AC.11/2002/2
Chairman:	Ms. A. Golubovska-Onisimova (Ukraine)	4th session 7-8 November 2002	CEP/AC.11/2002/24
Chairman:	Mr. V. Shevchuk (Ukraine)	5th session 20-21 February 2003	CEP/AC.11/2003/2
Working Group for the preparation of the first Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters		2nd meeting 21-24 May 2002	CEP/WG.5/2002/2
		3rd meeting 8-10 July 2002 Pula (Croatia)	CEP/WG.5/2002/14
Chairman:	Mr. F. La Camera (Italy)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. V. Koester (Denmark) Mr. J. Jendroska (Poland) Ms. N. Preradovic (Croatia) Ms. T. Shakirova (Kazakhstan) Ms. I. Bauer (Norway) Ms. M. Taylor (NGO representative)		

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report
Working Group on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers		5th meeting 24-28 June 2002	CEP/WG.5/AC.2/ 2002/6
Chairman:	Mr. K. Blaha (Czech Republic)	6th meeting 16-17 September 2002	CEP/WG.5/AC.2/ 2002/9
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. G. van Grootveld (Netherlands)		
Working Group on Genetically Modified Organisms		3rd meeting 17-19 June 2002	CEP/WG.5/AC.3/ 2002/6
Chairman:	Mr. H. Gaugitsch (Austria)		
Vice-Chairman:	Ms. L. Eek (Estonia)		
	TRANSPORT		
Inland Transport Committee		65th session 18-20 February 2003	ECE/TRANS/152 and Add.1
Chairman:	Mrs. V. Tanase (Romania)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. P. Päffgen (Germany)		
	Mr. N. Matyushenko (Russian Federation)		
Ad Hoc Multidisciplinary Group of Experts on Safety in Tunnels		6th session 21-22 January 2003	TRANS/AC.7/3
Chairman:	Mr. M. Egger (Switzerland)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. D. Lacroix (France)		
Ad Hoc Meeting of Experts on the Convention on Civil Liability for Damage caused during Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road, Rail and Inland Navigation Vessels (CRTD)		1st session 10-12 June 2002	TRANS/AC.8/2
		2nd session 4-6 November 2002	TRANS/AC.8/4
Chairman:	Mr. J.E. de Boer (Netherlands)		
Ad Hoc Multidisciplinary Group of Experts on Safety in Tunnels (rail)		1st session 27-28 June 2002	TRANS/AC.9/2
Chairman:	Mr. G. Fudger (United Kingdom)	2nd session 25-26 November 2002	TRANS/AC.9/4
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. K.-J. Bieger (Germany)		
Working Party on Road Traffic Safety		39th session 23-26 September 2002	TRANS/WP.1/85 & Add.1
Chairman:	Mr. B. Périsset (Switzerland)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. D. Link (Israel)	40th session 27-29 November 2002	TRANS/WP.1/86
	Mr. Y. Yakimov (Russian Federation)		
Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics		15th session 2-4 September 2002	TRANS/WP.5/32
Chairman:	Mr. V. Arsenov (Russian Federation)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. W. Zarnoch (Poland)		

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report
Working Party on Transport Statistics		53rd session 25-27 November 2002	TRANS/WP.6/143
Chairman:	Mr. E. Grib (Denmark)		
Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs		58th session 11-14 November 2002	TRANS/WP.11/206
Chairman:	Mr. M. Eilsoe (Denmark)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. B. McGregor (United States)		
Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods		72nd session 13-17 May 2002	TRANS/WP.15/17[illegible]
Chairman:	Mr. J. Franco (Portugal)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mrs. A. Roumier (France)	73rd session 4-8 November 2002	TRANS/WP.15/172
Joint Meeting of the RID Safety Committee and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods		9-12 September 2002	TRANS/WP.15/ AC.1/90
Chairman:	Mr. A. Johansen (Norway)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. H. Rein (Germany)		
Joint Meeting of Experts on the Regulations annexed to the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN)		6th session 27-30 May 2002	TRANS/WP.15/ AC.2/13
		7th session 21-23 January 2003	TRANS/WP.15/ AC.2/15
Chairman:	Mr. H. Rein (Germany)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. M. Rak (Czech Republic)		
Working Party on Combined Transport		38th session 7-9 October 2002	TRANS/WP.24/97
Chairman:	Mrs. M. Masclee (Netherlands)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. M. Viardot (France)		
World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29)		127th session 25-28 June 2002	TRANS/WP.29/861
Chairman:	Mr. B. Gauvin (France)	128th session 12-15 November 2002	TRANS/WP.29/885
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. V. Koutenev (Russian Federation)		
Chairman:	Mr. V. Koutenev (Russian Federation)	129th session 11-14 March 2003	TRANS/WP.29/909
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. B. Gauvin (France)		
Working Party on Noise		37th session 19-20 September 2002	TRANS/WP.29/ GRB/35
Chairman:	Mr. H. Löffelholz (Germany)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Working Party on Lighting and Light-signalling	49th session 30 September- 4 October 2002	TRANS/WP.29/ GRE/49
Chairman: Mr. H. Gorzkowski (Canada)		
Working Party on Pollution and Energy	44th session 10-14 June 2002	TRANS/WP.29/ GRPE/44
Chairman: Mr. B. Gauvin (France)	45th session 13-17 January 2003	TRANS/WP.29/ GRPE/45
Working Party on Brakes and Running Gear	52nd session 16-18 September 2002	TRANS/WP.29/ GRRF/52
Chairman: Mr. M. Fendick (United Kingdom)		
Chairman: Mr. G. Harvey (United Kingdom)	53rd session 3-7 February 2003	TRANS/WP.29/ GRRF/53
Working Party on General Safety Provisions	83rd session 15-18 October 2002	TRANS/WP.29/ GRSG/62
Chairman: Mr. A. Erario (Italy)		
Working Party on Passive Safety	31st session 13-17 May 2002	TRANS/WP.29/ GRSP/31
Chairman: Ms. J. Abraham (United States)	32nd session 10-13 December 2002	TRANS/WP.29/ GRSP/32
Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport	101st session 19-21 June 2002	TRANS/WP.30/202
Chairman: Mr . F. Paroissin (France)		
Chairman: Mr. G. Jacobs (Netherlands))	102nd session 22-25 October 2002	TRANS/WP.30/204
	103rd session 4-7 February 2003	TRANS/WP.30/206
Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention 1975	33rd session 24-25 October 2002	TRANS/WP.30/ AC.2/67
Chairman: Mr. O. Federov (Ukraine) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. R. Sen (Turkey)		
Chairman: Mr. R. Sen (Turkey) **Vice-Chairman:** Mrs. M. Ogren (Sweden)	34th session 6-7 February 2003	TRANS/WP.30/ AC.2/69
Administrative Committee for the International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Control of Goods, 1982	5th session 6-7 February 2003	TRANS/WP.30/ AC.3/10
Chairman: –		

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report
Working Party on Road Transport		96th session 7-10 October 2002	TRANS/SC.1/371 + Corr.1, +Add.1
Chairman:	Mr. J. Alaluusua (Finland)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. A. Pinson (Russian Federation)		
Ad Hoc Meeting on Implementation of the Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries (AGR)		18th session 10-11 June 2002	TRANS/SC.1/AC.5/36
Chairman:	Mr. M. Rolla (Poland)		
Working Party on Rail Transport		56th session 16-18 October 2002	TRANS/SC.2/198
Chairman:	Mr. G. Szabó (Hungary)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. K. Kulesza (Poland)		
Working Party on Inland Water Transport		46th session 22-24 October 2002	TRANS/SC.3/158
Chairman:	Mr. C. Hofhuizen (Netherlands)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. I. Valkar (Hungary)		
Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation		24th session 5-7 June 2002	TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/48
Chairman:	Mr. V. Vorontsov (Russian Federation)		

STATISTICS

Conference of European Statisticians		50th plenary session 10-12 June 2002	ECE/CES/62 + CES/2002/32 &
Chairman:	Mr. S. Longva (Norway)	OECD, Paris	Adds.1-6
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. L. Cook (United Kingdom)	(France)	
	Mr. H. Snorrason (Iceland)		
	Mr. T. Toczynski (Poland)		
	Mr. V. Sokolin (Russian Federation)		
	Mrs. K. Wallman (United States)		
Joint ECE/Eurostat/OECD Meeting on the Management of Statistical Information Systems		17-19 February 2003	CES/AC.71/2002/2
Co-Chairmen:	Mr. M. Turner (Canada)		
	Mr. W. Knueppel (Eurostat)		
Joint ECE/Eurostat/ILO Seminar on the Measurement of the Quality of Employment		27-29 May 2002	CES/SEM.48/2
Chairman:	Ms. B. Buhmann (Switzerland)		
Joint ECE/Eurostat/FAO/OECD Seminar on Food and Agricultural Statistics: Perspectives for Agricultural and Rural Indicators and Sustainability		21-22 November 2002 OECD, Paris (France)	CES/SEM.49/2
Chairman:	Mr. A. Lindner (OECD)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report

TRADE, INDUSTRY AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development	6th session 28 & 31 May 2002	ECE/TRADE/300
Chairman: Mr. A. Safarik-Pstrosz (Czech Republic) **Vice-Chairmen:** Ms. A. Öktem (Turkey) Mr. R. van Kuik (Netherlands) Mr. T. Toichubaev (Kyrgyzstan)		
Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)	8th session 27-28 May 2002	TRADE/CEFACT/ 2002/41
Chairman: Mr. C. Frühwald (Germany) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. K. Itoh (Japan) Mr. S. Mila (IAPH) Mr. J. J. Olumekun (Nigeria) Ms. T. Sorrenti (United States) Mr. R. Walker (United Kingdom)		
Working Party on Technical Harmonization and Standardization Policies	12th session 28-31 October 2002	TRADE/WP.6/2002/17
Chairman: Mr. C. Arvius (Sweden) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. D. Podhorsky (Slovakia) Mr. V. Koreshkov (Belarus)		
Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards	58th session 29-31 October 2002	TRADE/WP.7/2002/9
Chairman: Mr. D.L. Priester (United States) **Vice-Chairmen:** Ms. V. Baricicova (Slovakia) Ms. O. Vorovenci (Romania)		
Meeting of Specialized Section on Standardization of Dry and Dried Produce (Fruit)	49th session 21-24 May 2002	TRADE/WP.7/GE.2/ 2002/14
Chairman: Mr. W. Staub (Germany) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. M. Sciannella (Italy)		
Working Party on Industry and Enterprise Development	4th session 13-14 February 2003	TRADE/WP.8/2003/11
Chairman: Ms. J. Habuda (Hungary) **Vice-Chairmen:** Ms. D. Karajic (Croatia) Ms. T. Skameykina (Russian Federation)		

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report
SUSTAINABLE ENERGY			
Committee on Sustainable Energy		12th session 20-22 November 2002	ECE/ENERGY/49
Chairman:	Mr. M. Greenbaum (United States)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. B. Zluwa (Austria)		
	Mr. M. Hors (France)		
	Mr. L. Molnar (Hungary)		
	Mr. S. Mikhailov (Russian Federation)		
	Mr. J.-C. Füeg (Switzerland)		
	Mr. T. Cerepnalkovski (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)		
Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal and Thermal Power		5th session 18-19 November 2002	ENERGY/GE.1/2002/3
Chairman:	Mr. S. Klimov (Russian Federation)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. C. Alexandrescu (Romania)		
	Mr. M. Walis (Czech Republic)		
Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Extension of European Electricity Interconnection		5th session 22 November 2002	ENERGY/GE.2/2002/2
Chairman:	Mr. I. Smirnov (Russian Federation)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. H.Ch. Blanc (France)		
Ad Hoc Group of Experts on the Harmonization of Energy Reserves/Resources Terminology		1st session 12-13 June 2002	ENERGY/GE.3/2002/2
Chairman:	Mr. S. Heiberg (Norway)	2nd session 14-15 November 2002	ENERGY/GE.3/2002/4
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. T. Ahlbrandt (United States)		
	Mr. O. Zaborin (Russian Federation)		
	Mr. A. Subelj (Slovenia)		
Working Party on Gas		13th session 21-22 January 2003	ENERGY/WP.3/ /2003/2
Chairman:	Mr. B. Rey (Poland)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. N. Coupaye (France)		
	Mr. F. De Lichtervelde (Belgium)		
Meeting of Experts on Natural Gas Resources		25th session 13-14 June 2002	ENERGY/WP.3/GE.1/ 2002/2
Chairman:	Mr. M. Kosinowski (Germany)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. V. Skorobogatov (Russian Federation)		
Ad Hoc Group of Experts on the Supply and Use of Gas		4th session 23 January 2003	ENERGY/WP.3/GE.5/ 2003/2
Chairman:	Mr. A. Zedelj (Croatia)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mrs. M.T. Sao Pedro (Portugal)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Steering Committee of the Energy Efficiency 21 Project	13th session 24-25 June 2002	ENERGY/WP.4/ 2002/4
Chairman: Mr. B. Laponche (France) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. T. Dahlsveen (Norway) Mr. Z. Genchev (Bulgaria) Mr. T. Sacco (United States) Mrs. M. Persutto (Italy) Mr. B. Reoutov (Russian Federation)		
UNF/UNFIP Experts Team on Energy Efficiency Investments for Climate Change Mitigation	5th meeting 26 June 2002	ENERGY/WP.4/ 2002/5
Chairman: Mr. B. Jamet (France)		
TIMBER		
Timber Committee	60th session 24-27 September 2002	ECE/TIM/99
Chairman: Mr. J. Serveau (Canada) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. G.F. Borlea (Romania) Ms A. Bergquist (Sweden)		
Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training	24th session 12-14 September 2002 Ennis, Co. Clare (Ireland)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/ 2002/2
Chairman: Mr. H. Höfle (Germany) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. D. McAree (Ireland) Mr. M. Büchel (Switzerland)		
Seminar on Partnerships in Forestry	3-7 June 2002 Brussels (Belgium)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/ SEM.53/2002/2
Chairmen: Mr. C. de Schepper (Belgium) **Vice-Chairmen:** Ms. C. Holding Anyonge (FAO) Mr. C. Salvignol (France) Ms. A. Noriega (Spain)		
Seminar on Afforestation in the Context of Sustainable Forest Management	15-18 September 2002 Ennis, Co. Clare (Ireland)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/ SEM.54/2002/2
Chairman: Mr. M. Prendergast (Ireland) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. J. Connelly (Ireland) Mr. H. Höfle (Germany) Mr. E. Hendrick (Ireland)		
Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics	25th session 24-26 February 2003	TIM/EFC/WP.2/ 2003/8
Chairman: Mr. M. Gecovic (Slovakia) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. H. Huckert (Germany) Mr. M. Aarne (Finland)		

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS			
Committee on Human Settlements		63rd session 16-18 September 2002	ECE/HBP/127
Chairman:	Ms. D. Grabmüllerova (Czech Republic)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. W. Förster (Austria)		
	Mr. Y. Papadopoulos (Cyprus)		
	Mr. H. van Eyk (Netherlands)		
	Mr. M. Zawislak (Poland)		
	Mr. A. Starovoytov (Russian Federation)		
	Ms. E. Szolgayová (Slovakia)		
Ninth Conference on Urban and Regional Research "Sustainable and Liveable Cities"		9-12 June 2002 Leeds (United Kingdom)	HBP/SEM.53/2
Chairman:	Mr. J. Zetter (United Kingdom)		
Vice-Chairman:	Ms. M. Paskova (Slovakia)		
Coordinating Unit for Operational Activities			
First Regional Forum on Youth: "Security, Opportunity and Prosperity"		26-28 August 2002	OPA/AC.33/2
Chairman:	—		
High Level Task Force on Valuation and Capitalization of Intellectual Assets		18-19 November 2002	OPA/CONF.1/2002/2
Chairman:	Ms. K. Keyes Endemann (Canada)		
Round Table on "Overcoming Obstacles to the Development of an Information Society: A Business Solution"		24-25 February 2003	OPA/CONF.1/2003/2
Chairman:	—		

ANNEX II

PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION

A. LIST OF MAJOR ECE STUDIES AND PUBLICATIONS, 2002/2003

The language versions issued are indicated by the following abbreviations: E, English; F, French; R, Russian; E/F, bilingual (English/French); E/F/R, trilingual (English/French/Russian).

GENERAL

Annual Report of the ECE to ECOSOC, 12 May 2001-10 May 2002 Supplement No. 17 (E/2002/37-E/ECE/1395) — E F R

Economic Survey of Europe, 2002, No. 1 (Sales No. 02.II.E.7) — E F R

Economic Survey of Europe, 2002, No. 2 (Sales No. 02.II.E.8) — E F R

Economic Survey of Europe, 2003, No. 1 (Sales No. 03.II.E.26) — E F R

Economic Studies Series

Dynamics of Fertility and Partnership in Europe: Insights and Lessons from Comparative Research, (2 volumes) (Sales No. 02.II.E.10) — E

Fertility and Family Surveys in Countries of the ECE Region: Standard Country Reports — No. 10w Greece (Sales No. 02.II.E.6) — E

ENVIRONMENT

Sustainable Development in Europe, North America and Central Asia: Progress since Rio (ECE/CEP/84) — E F R

Environmental Performance Reviews Series

No. 14 – Uzbekistan (Sales No. 02.II.E.5) — E

No. 15 – Yugoslavia (Sales No. 03.II.E.24) — E

No. 16 – Albania (Sales No. 03.II.E.23) — E

No. 17 – The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (Sales No. 03.II.E.21) — E

TRANSPORT

European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR) (2 vols.) (ECE/TRANS/160) (Sales No. 02.VIII.1) — E F R

European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN) (ECE/TRANS/170) (Sales No. 03.VIII.1) E F R

Budapest Convention on the Contract for the Carriage of Goods by Inland Waterway (CMNI) (Sales No. 03.II.E.1) (multilingual English/French/Russian/German/Dutch) E/F/R

Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations, 13th revised edition (ST/SG/AC.10/1/Rev.13) (Sales No. 03.VIII.5) (Also available in Arabic, Chinese and Spanish) E F R

Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Manual of Tests and Criteria, 3rd revised edition. Amendment 1: Lithium Batteries (ST/SG/AC.10/11/Rev.3/Amend.1) (Sales No. 02.VIII.4) (Also available in Arabic, Chinese and Spanish) E F R

Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) (ST/SG/AC.10/30) (Sales No. 03.II.E.25) E F

Combined Census of Motor Traffic and Inventory of Standards and Parameters on Main International Traffic Arteries in Europe in 2000 – CD-ROM (Sales No. 03.II.E.36) E

Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe and North America 2002, Vol.XLVII (Sales No. 03.II.E.2) E/F/R

Set of Guidelines for Socio-Economic Cost Benefit Analysis of Transport Infrastructure Project Appraisal (Sales No. 03.II.E.22) E R

World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29): How it works, How to join it (Sales No. 02.II.E.9) E F R

Inland Transport Committee Directory, January 2003 (ECE/TRANS/NONE/2003/2) E

STATISTICS

World Robotics 2002 (Sales No. E.02.0.8) E

TRADE, INDUSTRY AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Trade Data Interchange Directory (UN/EDIFACT) (*Internet publication*, http://www.unedifact.org or http://www.unece.org/trade/untdid/directory.htm) E

Trade Data Elements Directory (*Internet publication*, http://www.unece.org/etrades/unedocs/tded.htm or http://www.unece.org/etrades/download/downmain.htm#TDED) E

UNECE Standards for Trade and Electronic Business (*Internet publication*, http://www.unedocs.org) E

The UNECE Document Development Toolkit for Trade Facilitators: A toolkit for the design of UNLK aligned trade documents (*Internet publication*, http://www.unece.org/etrades/download/downmain.htm#TDED) E

United Nations Codes for Trade and Transport Locations (UN/LOCODE) (*Internet publication*, http://www.unece.org/etrades/download/downmain.htm#TDED) E

ECE Extended Makup Language (XML) Trade Documents: FIATA Freight Forwarding Instructions (*Internet publication*, http://www.unece.org/etrades/unedocs/ffi.htm) E

HTML release of Codes for Units of Measure used in international trade (Recommendation 20) (*Internet publication*, www.unece.org/etrades/download/downmain.htm#recommendations) E

Multiplier Point Network List and Resources (*Internet publication*, http://www.unece.org/trade/tips/multiply/multip_h.htm) E F R

New and Revised Trade Facilitation Recommendation: Codes for Types of Means of Transport (*Internet publication*, www.unece.org/etrades/download/downmain.htm#recommendations) E

Information Brochure on Trade Facilitation — An Introduction to the Basic Concepts and Benefits (ECE/TRADE/289) E F R

Information Brochure on the Single Window Concept (ECE/TRADE/324) E

Information Brochure on E-Med business project - Capacity building in trade facilitation and electronic business in the Mediterranean (ECE/TRADE/321) E

Trade Facilitation – the Challenges of Simplifying Procedures for World Trade Growth and Development (ECE/TRADE/299) (Sales No. 03.II.E.10) E

Trading into the Future: E-Services for Trade, Investment and Enterprise (ECE/TRADE/286) (Sales No. 02.II.E.3) E

Information Economy Report "E-Policy Development in Transition Economies — 2002-2003" (ECE/TRADE/297) E

Towards a Knowledge-based Economy, Regional Assessment Report (ECE/TRADE/311/1) (Sales No. 03.II.E.9) E

Towards a Knowledge-based Economy: Country Readiness Assessment Reports:
Armenia (ECE/TRADE/311/3) (Sales No. 03.II.E.5) E
Belarus (ECE/TRADE/311/6) (Sales No. 03.II.E.7) E

Bulgaria (ECE/TRADE/311/4) (Sales No. 03.II.E.6)	E
Georgia (ECE/TRADE/311/10) (Sales No. 03.II.E.16)	E
Kyrgyzstan (ECE/TRADE/311/7) (Sales No. 03.II.E.14)	E
Latvia (ECE/TRADE/311/8) (Sales No. 03.II.E.8)	E
Russian Federation (ECE/TRADE/311/2) (Sales No. 03.II.E.4)	E
Slovakia (ECE/TRADE/311/9) (Sales No. 03.II.E.15)	E
Yugoslavia (ECE/TRADE/311/5) (Sales No. 03.II.E.13)	E
Trade and Investment Guide No. 6: Services in Transition Economies (ECE/TRADE/285) (Sales No. 02.II.E.1)	E
Trade and Investment Guide No. 7: Trade Finance for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises in CIS Countries (ECE/TRADE/298) (Sales No. 03.II.E.17)	E
Best Practice for International Business, from the UNECE Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development *(CD-Rom)* (Sales No. 01.II.E.30)	E
Summary Proceedings of the Round Table on Industrial Restructuring in European Transition Economies: Experience to Date and Prospects (ECE/TRADE/291) (Sales No. 02.II.E.11)	E F R
Developing Entrepreneurship and a Sustainable SME Sector in BSEC Countries (ECE/TRADE/292) (Sales No. 02.II.E.12)	E
Women's Entrepreneurship in Eastern Europe and CIS Countries (ECE/TRADE/310) (Sales No. 03.II.E.3)	E
The Role of the Economic Dimension in Conflict Prevention (ECE/TRADE/303) (Sales No. 02.II.E.14)	E
Investiguide 2002-2003, Project Opportunities and Contacts for the CEI Region (ECE/TRADE/313)	E
Entrepreneurship and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises: The Slovenian Experience (OPA/AC.30/1)	E
Best Practice in the Development of Entrepreneurship and SMEs in Countries in Transition: The Belarusian Experience (ECE/TRADE/302)	E
Seminar on Analysis, Methodology of Treatment and Remediation of Contaminated Soils and Groundwater (ECE/TRADE/323)	E F R
ECE standards for seed potatoes (revision) (*Internet publication*, www.unece.org/trade/agr/meetings/wp.07/documents/2002_09_a16.pdf)	E

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

International Codification System for Low-rank Coal Utilization (ECE/ENERGY/50) E/F/R

New Energy Security Threats, ECE Energy Series No. 19, eBook (ENERGY/2003/1) (Sales No. E.03.0.8) E

TIMBER

Geneva Timber and Forest Discussion Papers

Forecast of the Economic Growth in OECD Countries and Central and Eastern European Countries for the Period 2000-2040 (ECE/TIM/DP/24) (Sales No. 02.II.E.13) E

Forest Certification Update for the UNECE Region, Summer 2002 2040 (ECE/TIM/DP/25) (Sales No. 02.II.E.16) E

Forest and Forest Products, Country Profile – Georgia 2040 (ECE/TIM/DP/26) (Sales No. 02.II.E.19) E

Russian Federation Forest Sector Outlook Study 2040 (ECE/TIM/DP/27) (Sales No. 02.II.E.30) E

Forest Cooperation with Countries in Transition 2040 (ECE/TIM/DP/28) (Sales No. 02.II.E.29) E

Employment Trends and Prospects in the European Forest Sector 2040 (ECE/TIM/DP/29) (Sales No. 02.II.E.28) E

Timber Bulletin, Vol. LV (2002)

No. 3: Forest Products Annual Market Review, 2001-2002 (ECE/TIM/BULL/2002/3) E F R

No. 4: Forest Fire Statistics, 1999-2001 (ECE/TIM/BULL/2002/4) E/F

No. 5: Forest Products Trade Flow Data, 1999-2000 E/F

No. 6: Forest Products Markets: Prospects for 2003 (ECE/TIM/BULL/2002/6) E/F

Timber and Forest Information Series: Timber Committee Yearbook 2003 (ECE/TIM/INF/10) E F R

Discussion Papers on Sustainable Forest Management: No. 1: Sustainable Development and Certification in the Russian Forest Sector (ECE/TRADE/283) (Sales No. 01.II.E.29) E/R

Temperate and Boreal Forest Resources Assessment – update for Ministerial Conference *(Internet publication)*	E
International Forest Fire News 2002 (ECE/TIM/NONE/2002/5)	E

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Bulletin of Housing and Building Statistics *(Internet publication)*	E
Country Profiles on the Housing Sector: Albania (ECE/HBP/130) (Sales No. 03.II.E.18)	E
Guidelines on Condominium Ownership of Housing for Countries in Transition (ECE/HBP/123) (Sales No. 03.II.E.20)	E

B. LIST OF DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSION AT ITS FIFTY-EIGHTH SESSION

Provisional agenda	E/ECE/1397
Proposed Follow-up for the ECE Region of the World Summit on Sustainable Development	E/ECE/1398
The UNECE Reform	E/ECE/1399
Major Policy Directions of UNECE's Work	E/ECE/1400
UNECE's Achievements and Constraints during 2002 and Perspectives for 2003	E/ECE/1401
Preparation for and Follow-up to World and Regional Conferences	E/ECE/1402
UNECE Technical Cooperation Activities in 2002: An Overview	E/ECE/1403
Cooperation and Coordination with Other Organizations	E/ECE/1404 and Add.1
The Work of the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work	E/ECE/1405
Conference Room Paper 1: Background Paper on the 2002 Series of Country Profiles as submitted to the Commission on Sustainable Development	

C. REPORTS OF THE PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE COMMISSION

Committee on Environmental Policy	ECE/CEP/86
Inland Transport Committee	ECE/TRANS/152
Conference of European Statisticians	ECE/CES/62 CES/2002/32 and Adds. 1-6
Committee on Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development	ECE/TRADE/300
Committee on Sustainable Energy	ECE/ENERGY/49
Timber Committee	ECE/TIM/99
Committee on Human Settlements	ECE/HBP/127

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